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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	: Bruce C. Johnson	
Serial No.	: 08/874,781	
Filed	: June 13, 1997	Group Art Unit: 3312
For	: NASAL DILATOR	Examiner:
Docket No.	: C348.12-0013	FEB 19 1998 GROUP 3300

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

I CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL,  
FIRST CLASS, TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR  
PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 19 97  
T. J. Hill  
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

Prior to an Examiner's first Action in the above-identified application, please enter the following amendment:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1.

Please rewrite the following claims as indicated:

2. (Twice Amended) [The nasal dilator of claim 1 wherein the truss member includes:] A nasal dilator for preventing outer wall tissue of nasal passages of a nose from drawing in during breathing comprising:

a flexible truss member having an initial state absent flexure thereof the truss member including:

a flexible strip of material defining [the] first and second end regions and [the]  
an intermediate segment with the first end region adapted to engage  
the outer wall tissue of a first nasal passage at a first side of the  
flexible strip of material and with the second end region adapted to

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